This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for locating data in a storage device, comprising:

receiving a request for data;

simultaneously initiating a search for the data on at least two storage areas using a different search technique for each storage area, wherein each storage area includes a copy of the data, [[and]] wherein each search technique specifies a technique for locating the data on a storage area, wherein the at least two storage areas are located on two separate storage devices, and wherein the search technique for a first of the at least two storage areas is a top down search and wherein the search technique for a second of the at least two storage areas is a bottom up search; and

in response to receiving an indication from at least one of the storage areas that the data was located, terminating the search on each of the other storage areas.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

identifying the at least two storage areas that include the copy of the data.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

identifying the at least two storage areas to be searched based on at least one of a location of the storage areas relative to a data seek controller, data transfer rate between the storage areas and the data seek controller, and type of transmission medium between the storage area and the data seek controller.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the number of storage areas to be searched is user specified.

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one~~ each search technique is selected in a round robin manner.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one~~ each search technique is user specified.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

returning the data in response to the request.

10.   (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a first storage area coupled to a bus;

a second storage area;

circuitry operable to:

        receive a request for data;

        simultaneously initiate a search for the data on the first storage area and the second storage area using a different search technique for each storage area, wherein each storage area includes a copy of the data, [[and]] wherein each search technique specifies a technique for locating the data on a storage area, wherein the at least two storage areas are located on two separate storage devices, and wherein the search technique for a first of the at least two storage areas is a top down search and wherein the search technique for a second of the at least two storage areas is a bottom up search; and

        in response to receiving an indication from one of the storage areas that the data was located, terminate the search on the other storage area.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the circuitry is operable to:

identify the first storage area and the second storage area that include the copy of the data.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the circuitry is operable to:

identify the first storage area and the second storage area to be searched based on at least one of a location of the storage areas relative to the circuitry, data transfer rate between the storage areas and the circuitry, and type of transmission medium between the storage area and the circuitry.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the number of storage areas to be searched is user specified.

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Cancelled)

16.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein ~~at least one~~ each search technique is selected in a round robin manner.

17.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein ~~at least one~~ each search technique is user specified.

18.   (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the circuitry is operable to:
return the data in response to the request.

19.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture embodied as one of hardware logic and a computer readable medium for locating data in a storage device, wherein the article of manufacture is operable to:
receive a request for data;
simultaneously initiate a search for the data on at least two storage areas using a different search technique for each storage area, wherein each storage area includes a copy of the data, [[and]] wherein each search technique specifies a technique for locating the data on a storage area, wherein the at least two storage areas are located on two separate storage devices, and

<u>wherein the search technique for a first of the at least two storage areas is a top down search and</u> <u>wherein the search technique for a second of the at least two storage areas is a bottom up search;</u> and

in response to receiving an indication from at least one of the storage areas that the data was located, terminate the search on each of the other storage areas.

20.   (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the article of manufacture is operable to:

identify the at least two storage areas that include the copy of the data.

21.   (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the article of manufacture is operable to:

identify the at least two storage areas to be searched based on at least one of a location of the storage areas relative to a data seek controller, data transfer rate between the storage areas and the data seek controller, and type of transmission medium between the storage area and the data seek controller.

22.   (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the number of storage areas to be searched is user specified.

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Cancelled)

25.   (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein at least one each search technique is selected in a round robin manner.

26.   (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein at least one each search technique is user specified.

27.   (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the article of manufacture is operable to:

return the data in response to the request.